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Newspaper

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Friday, July 24, 2020



Wheelsmith, a group of local musicians, played the first summer concert at Connie Mack Field last Thursday evening.



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS STAFF PHOTOS
BY PAULA OUIMETTE

Connie Mack Field saw residents
for the Summer Concert Series
kick-off last Thursday night.

A laid back pup
attended the season's
first concert at
Connie Mack Field last
Thursday.

A little summer music

EAST BROOKFIELD — The East Brookfield Summer Concert Series kicked off Thursday, July 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Connie Mack Field. Wheelsmith, a band comprised of local musicians, played

classic favorites. Social distancing rules were observed with people asked to wear masks until their chairs/blankets were set up six feet from each other.

At-risk dogs can find forever homes

Local nonprofit
welcomes 21 dogs to
Massachusetts

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Second Chance Animal Services was at Worcester Regional Airport this week to greet 21 dogs escaping overcrowded shelters across the country. The dogs, ranging in size from chihuahua mixes to lab mixes were welcomed by Second Chance staff right on the tarmac and traveled to the nonprofit's Almost Home Facility to begin their new lives in the Bay State.

Each dog will complete a 48-hour state mandated quar-

antine and will be checked out by Second Chance Shelter Veterinarian Dr. Jackie Celmer. Celmer will give them a thorough checkup including bloodwork, update their vaccines and will spay or neuter any dogs that haven't already been fixed. She keeps an eye out for any medical issues the dogs may be suffering from to make sure they are healthy before she clears them for adoption. Pets with more extensive medical issues are often sent to Second Chance. With three nonprofit hospitals, they have the resources to help pets that would face a grim outcome at an overcrowded shelter.

CEO Sheryl Blancato said



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS COURTESY PHOTO
Dogs being unloaded from Wings of Rescue plane for the first time since the COVID-19 restrictions went in place.

she was excited to welcome Second Chance's first air transport since the pandemic began. "We saw so many

adoptions happen as the stay-at-home restrictions were put

Please see **DOGS**, page 5

Palmer included in final rail options

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER — On Thursday, July 9, members and attendees of the Palmer Rail Steering Committee were ecstatic to get together virtually and celebrate that the town of Palmer has been selected as a rail stop in all three alternatives of the East-West Passenger Rail Study.

Benjamin Hood, chairman of the committee, said this discovery, which he said was announced through an email on June 25, was "wonderful news."

"All of these alternatives also run down the old right-of-way, which for those of us who really started on this campaign a long time ago to make it a downtown Palmer issue, that's the best possible news, because it's not a Mass Pike right-of-way" said Hood. "They're not even going near alternative six and the Mass Pike option, which was a \$25 billion option."

Following the thoughtful

Please see **RAIL**, page 2

Senate passes transportation investment bill

Authorizes over \$16
billion to accelerate
transportation projects

BOSTON -- The Massachusetts State Senate on Thursday, July 16, 2020, passed legislation to jumpstart investment in transportation infrastructure and make the commonwealth's transportation system more reliable and accessible to residents.

"Our Main Street businesses cannot be successful if customers can't get to them safely"

— Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer

"Our Main Street businesses cannot be successful if customers can't get to them safely, commerce can't be

conducted on unmaintained roads, and emergency vehicles need to be able to travel over our roads and bridges," said state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer. "This bond bill helps to make the necessary investments in our infrastructure, while also assisting our towns on some of their critical projects."

The bill, An Act Authorizing and Accelerating Transportation Investment, authorizes more than \$16 billion in bonds for a wide variety

of infrastructure projects, including both upkeep and maintenance, as well as modernization. In addition to addressing issues such as construction, regional initiatives, traffic congestion and transportation network company data sharing, this legislation addresses equity in the transportation system by requiring a low-income fare program, which will provide discounted transit fares to qualifying

Please see **SENATE**, page 6

- community -



NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Hannaford supermarket is getting a facelift so it can have a fresher face for its customers.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS STAFF PHOTO BY PAULA QUIMETTE

Market makeover

WARE – Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, today announced the grant recipients associated with its Community Heroes Campaign, an effort to recognize exceptional acts of service by local individuals in the region and the continued fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

After seeing the significant efforts local community members were making to help others through these challenging times, Country Bank vowed to ensure their heroics didn't go unrecognized and created a campaign to honor them.

As part of the campaign, more than 200 heroes were nominated through an online submission process explaining why they should be chosen. A new hero was selected each week and awarded a \$250 gift

card to the local business of their choice. In addition, a donation to a COVID-19 relief organizations was made in their name.

"This campaign aims to commemorate local heroes while also supporting local businesses and COVID- related relief services," stated Paul Scully, president and CEO of Country Bank. "As a long-time part of the community, we consider it our duty to stand by and be of support to our neighbors in times of need."

Community Heroes chosen were:

- Noelle Grace Efantis, registered nurse at Baystate Wing Hospital
- Michelle and Jay Demore, Demore's Automotive Center
- Paula Perrier, director of Child Development Services at the

YMCA Tri-Community Child Development Center

- Benjamin Mead, operations manager of Environmental Services at St. Francis Hospital
- Alan Tracy, Pioneer Valley USO director at Westover Air Reserve Base
- The directors and transit care specialist at Beers & Story Funeral Home, of Palmer

Country Bank continues to be one of the many businesses supporting its communities throughout the pandemic. The bank has made \$450,000 in donations to local COVID relief efforts and continues to look for ways to give back in a meaningful way during these challenging times.

To learn more about this program, visit www.countrybank.com/community-heroes.

RAIL from page 1

comments and preferences on which three alternatives should be carried into the final analysis phase from the advisory committee, the decision was made.

Responses conveyed that there should be no bus option. Alternative six reduced impacts to freight services and could be transformative for the Commonwealth and the majority felt that this decision should not move forward, due to its longer-term nature for implementation, and expected high cost.

The decision to advance alternative three (Pittsfield to Boston), alternative four (Pittsfield to Boston) and alternative five (Springfield to Boston) was selected by most of the committee.

The hybrid option will include rail service for the full corridor from Pittsfield to Boston; Station stops at Pittsfield, Chester, Springfield Union Station, Palmer, Worcester Union Station and Boston.

This hybrid is expected to go from Pittsfield to Springfield, with construction of some double track sections along the CSX tracks/alignment for shared freight and passenger rail service, and from Springfield to Worcester with the construction of a new passenger-only track in CSX right-of-way separate from freight service. In the Springfield to Worcester segment, additional track realignments will be implemented to achieve reductions in travel time.

Regarding the next steps, as said by MassDOT rail and transit administrator Astrid Glynn, the study team will refine the cost estimates, forecast a ridership range based on the town proxy scenarios presented at the June 10th Advisory Committee meeting, which consisted of the 'Enhanced' Hartford Line and Downeaster, conduct Rail Traffic Controller simulation modeling, conduct Benefit-Cost Analyses and assess opportunities for funding and revenue sources for each of the three alternative options.

Hood also thanked Palmer town planner Linda Leduc for her work in constantly keeping the town of Palmer as a rail stop.

"I think this is the result of her hard work," said Hood. "This particular decision was because she was the one person in the room who always pushed and focused on Palmer. We had some other people who were good for us, I don't want to forget (Rep.) Todd Smola, Senator (Eric) Lesser often was in our corner, but I think that Linda knew that the goal was to make sure Palmer was in these plans, and that's what we have achieved as of June 25th."



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- sturbridge -

Harrington Physician Services expands interventional pain management services

SOUTHBRIDGE – The Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation practice of Harrington Physician Service has expanded the interventional pain management services offered in its Southbridge office, adding additional treatment space, naming a new medical director and welcoming an additional physician to the staff who is board certified in pain management.

Interventional pain management services are available at the PM&R practice located in the Harrington Physician Services Medical Arts Building at 100 South St. in Southbridge. In addition to the practice's main office in Suite 108, the practice now offers additional space on the building's fourth floor for pain management services.

A variety of interventional treatments for the management of chronic pain are offered, including treatments for back, neck and pelvic pain, chronic headaches, neuropathy and cancer-related pain. Treatments include epidural steroid injections, facet blocks, nerve blocks, trigger point and joint injections, spinal cord stimulation and electrodiagnostic studies including nerve conduction studies and electromyography.

This month Sean Stevenson, DO, was named medical director of pain management within Harrington's PM&R practice. Stevenson is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation and has been providing pain management care to HPS PM&R patients since 2018. He completed his residency at Mercy Medical Center in Rockville Center, New York, where he served as chief resident. He received his medical degree from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and has a bachelor of science in exercise science from UMASS Amherst.

"I'm very excited to take on the role of medical director for pain management, and thrilled to grow and expand our pain management program," Stevenson said. "Pain management services are an important part of the rehabilitation process. We're dedicated to working closely with physical therapy, occupational therapy and behavioral health providers to help people to reduce pain, increase mobility and ultimately, improve their quality of life."

Joseph Condon, MD, joined Stevenson in the PM&R practice in May and provides interventional pain procedures for PM&R patients. Condon is board certified in both physical medicine and rehabilitation as well as pain management, and has been practicing for more than 25 years. He received his medical degree from New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York, and completed his residency at the New York Presbyterian Hospital Cornell Medical Center.

Patients interested in scheduling an appointment for interventional pain management services at the HPS Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation practice should call 508-765-2125. A physician referral is required.

Federated Church to offer Virtual Vacation Bible School

STURBRIDGE – The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale has announced that it will introduce a new, Virtual Vacation Bible School experience for the whole family on Aug. 3, according to Director of Religious Education Jeanne Westcott, with guidelines and ideas inspired by Illustrated Ministry. "While this pandemic has made it impossible to have VBS in person this year, we can still do some really great activities and learn some awesome ways to practice compassion and kindness toward others," said Westcott, "This virtual program proves to be both fun and timely in consideration of the recent events of our world. What a great opportunity to practice "Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself." Virtual VBS: Compassion Camp is designed for families to engage in story, art, movement, song and games together. Select Bible Stories and concepts will be offered via pre-recorded videos uploaded to Google drive with the link shared to participants. The program includes pre-made kits, a song CD and additional resources with a focus on building and practicing acceptance, tolerance and understanding. If a family is interested in participating, they may simply agree to pick up the kits and learn together at their leisure.

Supplies and informational materials will be available for pick-up by registrants outside the Church doors at 8 Maple St. in Sturbridge on Monday, Aug. 3, and Wednesday, Aug. 5. Daily videos will also be available via Google Drive, and links will appear in the program packets.

It is not necessary to be a member of Sturbridge Federated Church to participate, but enrollment is required by Wednesday, July 28. Application forms are available on the Church's Facebook page and website at sturfed.org. For additional information, email Jeanne Westcott at sundayschool@sturfed.org or contact the church office at 508-347-3915.

Emma Aldenberg named to honors list at Pomfret School

POMFRET, Connecticut – Emma Aldenberg, of Sturbridge, Massachusetts, from the Class of 2020 was named to the spring 2020 Head of School Scholar Honors list at Pomfret School. To achieve this level of distinction, she earned a grade point average of at least 4.00 and received no grade lower than an A-.

Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent college preparatory school for boarding and day students in grades nine through 12. It also offers a postgraduate year. Set on 500 acres in the celebrated Last Green Valley of Northeastern Connecticut, its mission is to cultivate a healthy interdependence of mind, body, and spirit in its students. It offers eight academic disciplines, more than 100 elective courses, 25 athletic options and numerous opportunities to participate in community outreach and service programs.

Federated Church to resume on-site services

STURBRIDGE – The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale has announced that it will resume in-person worship services on Sunday, Aug. 2. According to Pastor Gretchen Switzer, the Church will be abiding by Gov. Charlie Baker's capacity restriction of 40% of the usual attendance. In a notification to church members on Monday, July 20, Switzer and the church's reopening team released their plans to cautiously return to the sanctuary for Sunday services. Members are being urged to stay home if they do not feel well, are in a high-risk category, are caring for someone who has been sick or do not yet feel safe being in a public space. In the meantime, the church will continue to broadcast the weekly services on Facebook Live for the benefit of those who do not wish to attend in person.

Those who do wish to attend will be required to wear masks, and masks will be available for those who do not have one. Attendees are asked to enter the church through the Maple Street entrance where they will be guided by an usher to a marked pew with social distancing space already sectioned off. Families and couples may sit together, but everyone else will be seated at a safe distance.

Until advised by their professional affiliations that it is safe to do so, the church will suspend communion and singing. All hymnals and bibles have been removed from the pews. Members are encouraged to bring their own bible from home. The church has also purchased a disinfectant sanitizing fogger that will be used before and after every service. Additional safety measures will also be in place.

"In these uncertain times, we know that it may be uncomfortable for a time as we get re-acclimated to operating under these new restrictions," said Switzer. "But we are implementing them so everyone may be protected, and we cannot reopen without them in place. We thank everyone in advance for their cooperation in following these guidelines so our community may join together in prayer once again."

Members of the reopening team are Switzer, Deb Knight, Rebecca Wellwood, Lisa Perry, Carolyn Walker, Bob Cordell and Barbara Cordell. For additional information, please contact the church office at 508-347-3915.

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- opinion -

Time to learn the system from the inside

By Lee H. Hamilton
Guest columnist

I’ve spent a long time in politics, and over those years one thing has remained constant: There are a lot more Americans who criticize government than there are who serve and do something about it.

I’ll admit, there have been times when I’ve felt a bit resentful. It’s hard to enter the fray, be expected to listen patiently to criticism from all comers, and then look around to find that many of them are nowhere to be found when it comes to the hard work of improving our communities and our system.

But far more than annoyance, what I’ve felt is amazement at the immense but often ungrasped opportunity our system offers. This is especially acute these days, as millions of Americans take to the streets and to social media with passionate intensity, driven by deeply-held beliefs or newfound conviction and a sense that it’s time to weigh in. I agree—but then, I think it’s always time to weigh in. That’s what our system asks of us as citizens. And in particular, I’d argue that it asks us to do it from the inside, not just from the outside.

We desperately need citizens to enter the public arena—people who are not afraid to plunge in and try to improve our democratic institutions. To be sure, critics and ordinary engaged citizens have an important role to play in shaping the public discourse. But if at some point in their lives they and others do not also see a duty to serve, our nation is in trouble.

I know the arguments you can find against it. You have to compromise your values. It’s thankless. The system turns you into a cog. You make yourself a target of scrutiny. You can’t actually accomplish anything.

To all of this, I say: So? There is no question that our governing institutions need improving. But it’s not going to happen unless people with the power to change them roll up their sleeves and set about doing so. And those people are the ones inside those institutions, who’ve learned how they work and who understand that actual change happens by dint of legislation, administration, and the nitty-gritty details of reform.

There are plenty of other things you can do, too: vote, spend time learning the issues you care about, make informed judgments about your elected representatives, get involved in organizations that advocate for the causes you value. But as writer Andy Smarick put it recently in “The Bulwark,” “[G]overning is formative. Knocking on doors as a candidate is not just about winning votes. Sitting through a long bill hearing is not just about following the legislative process. Taking part in public debates is not just about self-expression. Making a tough governing decision is not just about resolving a policy matter. Through these activities, the public servant listens to fellow citizens, learns of competing priorities, and witnesses principles in conflict.”

In our democracy, these and other skills are vital, not just for public officials, but for any citizen who wants to be involved in the community. Listening to our peers, understanding their

Please see **HAMILTON**, page 5



Common questions regarding tomatoes, shrubs and more

This is a common question about the cracks that often occur on tomatoes: “most of the fruit have circular cracks, almost all the way around, up near the stem end. Is this a disease or nutrient deficiency?”

Neither! What you are describing are growth cracks. Tomatoes generally crack when a droughty period is followed by lots of rain. Cracks tend to be worse if the weather has been hot. The tomatoes on two of the nine plants I am growing in my vegetable garden are exhibiting this problem as well. Some varieties tend to be more “crack tolerant” than others, and are labeled as such in seed catalogs. To prevent future cracks, be sure to water on a regular basis. Don’t be afraid to eat damaged fruit; while they aren’t pretty, they are edible. More prone to rot, however, so use them quickly.

Autumnal sunflowers

A perennial aficionado from Brimfield is curious about the autumnal sunflower (*Helenium autumnale*), otherwise known as Sneezeweed. “I absolutely love this plant for the late season color that it adds to my perennial border. My only problem is that it is too tall. I have pinched back perennial asters for years with success. Can this same technique be used to make a stouter clump of Sneezeweed?”

It certainly can. Like you, I love everything about Sneezeweed, except for its height, which can top off at four feet! It is a native plant, which is not bothered by insects or diseases to speak of, has lovely long-lasting yellow or rusty orange flowers and despite what its name implies, doesn’t make you sneeze. Years ago I experimented with reducing the height of my own plants and pinched them back twice. They were about 18 inches shorter at bloom time than they would have been and still flowered abundantly. Next year try it for yourself. When the plant is about a foot tall, remove

the top few nodes of each shoot. Repeat the pinching process a couple of weeks later, finishing by the end of June. This will give the plant ample time to grow to a respectable height and initiate buds in time for its debut come August.

Yew bushes

“I have some yews growing along the foundation of my house. They are the perfect size right now, but I am worried they will get out of hand. Do you have any pruning tips to pass along?” inquires a Palmer homeowner.

Sure! For this job you will need a pair of hand clippers, not hedge trimmers. New growth is obvious: it is very flexible, lighter in color and extends several inches from the shrub’s silhouette. With clippers in hand, grab a branch, and instead of removing just the new growth, make a cut well within the body of the shrub. This process is called “making windows.” The windows allow light to penetrate the plant’s interior causing regeneration to occur. Repeat in various spots on each shrub for a balanced appearance. Any straggly growth that remains can be nipped back. By pruning in this manner each year, healthy, new growth is encouraged, yet height and width control is maintained. Too labor intensive for you? Alright, use the hedge trimmers first, then make a few windows, for nearly the same effect. Yews were quite popular foundation plants decades ago and are nice evergreens if managed properly and not left to their own devices.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.



Roberta McQuaid

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500 and 800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Send opinions to:
Letters to the Editor, 80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 OR e-mail to ekennedy@turley.com. Deadline for submission is Monday at noon for the following week’s edition.

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This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo.

We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

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Quaboag Current Newspaper

- opinion -

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Why won't social security give me my widow's benefit?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I have been a widow since November 2019. I retired under the Federal Civil Service Retirement System. Before my husband died, I made an appointment with Social Security to see if I could receive his Social Security if he passed on. I was told I could. Since he passed, Social Security has adamantly refused to let me have my husband's Social Security. I have had many problems with them. Who is correct here? I have lost \$1,400 per month. My Social Security check is about \$126 per month. Signed: Frustrated widow

Dear Frustrated widow: First, please accept my condolences on the loss of your husband. Unfortunately, I don't have good news for you.

Because of your federal Civil Service Retirement System pension, you are subject to the "Government Pension Offset" provision of Social Security. The GPO reduces the survivor benefit for anyone who also has a pension from an employer which did not participate in Social Security (neither the employer or the employee paid into Social Security), and your federal CSRS pension falls into this category. GPO reduces any survivor benefit you might otherwise be entitled to by two thirds of the amount of your CSRS pension, which often eliminates the survivor benefit. For clarity, GPO also applies to a Social Security benefit from a living spouse.

As you probably already know, your CSRS pension caused your own Social Security benefit, earned from other work outside of your federal employment, to be reduced by the Windfall Elimination Provision. Unfortunately, whoever you previously spoke with at the Social Security Administration prior to your husband's death gave you some incorrect information, because you are also subject to the GPO. And that is why Social Security will not now pay you a survivor benefit from your husband.

I'm afraid you have no recourse on this, as both the GPO and WEP have been the law for decades. The federal government has now changed to a "Federal Employee Retirement System," which fully participates in Social Security (both employees and the employer contribute to Social Security), so more recent federal retirees are not subject to the WEP and GPO rules. But there are still many U.S. state and local government employers which, to varying degrees, do not participate in Social Security, and whose employees are still impacted by both GPO and WEP.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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hopes, appreciating the differences among them, grasping why accommodation and compromise are crucial to resolving those differences, and learning how to accomplish them are part and parcel of making a representative democracy work. People who do this feel in their bones how hard it is to govern in a large, diverse republic, and why we depend on large numbers of ordinary people to step forward, find their niche, and participate on town boards, in state legislatures, and in Congress.

So, as I look about at the remarkable levels of public engagement in this intense political year, I find myself hoping that more comes out of it than simple public pressure. I hope that people who'd never considered it before decide it's time to step forward, serve in public office, and help their fellow citizens make this a better country.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Cornerstone Bank contributes to Worcester Together Fund

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank's Charitable Donations Committee is pleased to announce its recent donation of \$2,500 to the Worcester Together Fund. Once again, the Bank has provided support to assist those in our community impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The Worcester Together Fund is a partnership between the United Way of Central Massachusetts, the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, and the City of Worcester. The fund was created to address urgent needs resulting from the impact of the coronavirus public health crisis and will address immediate and long-term needs of the local community.

To date, the Worcester To-

gether Fund has provided over \$3 million in grants, focusing on areas of food and shelter, health, economic security, child nutrition, mental health, arts and culture, and enhancing operations to local non-profit organizations.

"The Worcester Together Fund has provided vital support to our local community during such an uncertain time," said Cornerstone Bank President & Treasurer and Chairman of the Bank's Charitable Donations Committee Todd M. Tallman. "We are pleased to give back to our community at a time when it's needed most."

For more information or to contribute to the Worcester Together Fund, please visit www.unitedwaycm.org or www.great-erworcester.org, or by texting

worcestercovid19 to 243725.

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Local residents graduate from UMass Lowell

Virtual commencement honors Class of 2020

LOWELL — Local residents were among the graduates honored by UMass Lowell's 2020 Commencement on Friday, May 29, and included Jenyka Leigh Spitz-Gassnola, who received a master of arts degree in peace and conflict studies, John David Fedirko, who received a bachelor of music degree in sound recording technology. Both students are from West Brookfield. The university held a virtual commencement ceremony for the more than 4,400 members of the Class of 2020, which represents 45 states and 108 nations, and included 1,624 individuals who graduated with honors.

The ceremony was presided over by UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney, who is a two-time UMass Lowell graduate. The commencement address

was delivered by Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and the student address was by criminal justice major Rachel Record, of Pepperell, who was also one of six recipients of the Trustee's Key for maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA for her entire UMass Lowell career, as well as a Chancellor's Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement.

The ceremony also featured special congratulations wishes for UMass Lowell graduates from Dropkick Murphys, UMass Lowell alumni TV personality Taniya Nayak and meteorologist Sarah Wroblewski; Food Network chef Robert Irvine; sports broadcasters including John Buccigross, of ESPN, Kathryn Tappen, of NBC Sports, and Baseball Hall of Famer Dennis Eckersley, of New England Sports Network; and past UMass Lowell Commencement speakers and honorees including Oscar winner Chris Cooper and

author Marianne Leone Cooper, Judy Woodruff, of PBS, Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart, Steve Kornacki, of MSNBC, and U.S. Rep. Lori Trahan. The main ceremony was followed by online events by each of the university's schools and colleges during which all graduates' names were read.

UMass Lowell is a national research university located on a campus in the heart of a global community. The university offers its more than 18,000 students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs, vigorous hands-on learning and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe.

Local students make the UMass Amherst dean's list

AMHERST — A number of local students who were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the spring 2020 semester.

In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

The students include Christina Ruth Izbicki, Hayden Christopher Peterson, Sarah Elizabeth Pratt, Nikola O Zaniewski, of Brookfield; Lily Katherine Fahey, Olivia

Doros Fahey and Noah Sullivan, all of East Brookfield; Emily Louise Gianfriddo, Rachel Suzanne Hayden, Amelia Marie Jordan, Evan J Krause, all of North Brookfield; Charlie J Bouhanna, Dylan Robert Cave, Thomas Roger Goodwin, Lily Isabella Kent, Roman Gabriel Krochmalnyckyj, Jared Jeffrey Langevin, Joseph Daniel Matte,

Thomas Richard Mazeika, Sarah Emily Peck, Connor Michael Rich, Kendra Jane Salvui-

lo, Arnesh Sengupta, Eric David Silveira and Fey Thurber, all of Sturbridge; Brady Eugene Antonopoulos, Emily Alice Bouchard, Anduin Meadow DeVos, Robert Greenlaw, Hunter Augustus Lynch, Katelyn Mary Maskell Sr, Conor McCarthy, Keegan Timothy Moynahan, Kolby James Moynahan, Christine, Margaret Pleshaw, Herrick Spencer, Isabelle MacNaughten Webber and Philip Michael Ye, all of West Brookfield.

DOGS from page 1

in place and it was amazing to see our pets find loving homes, but we worried about all the at-risk pets who wouldn't be able to get to us with travel restrictions," she said. "They truly need us."

Blancato said the dogs will be transferred to the adoption center in East Brookfield to wait to meet their new owners over the next week. Interested adopters are advised to watch the Second Chance website for more information on the dogs and resist the urge to call. The phones have been ringing off

the hook at the Adoption Center, where staff are unable to answer any questions on the dogs because they haven't met them yet.

This lifesaving mission was coordinated by Wings of Rescue and the ASPCA for Second Chance's transport program. Those wishing to donate toward the dogs' care can make a donation online at secondchancenanimals.org, on the Second Chance Facebook page or by mail to PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

Second Chance is a nonprofit 501c3 tax exempt organization

that began in 1999 in East Brookfield and relies solely on donations from grants to operate. The organization operates an adoption center in East Brookfield, community veterinary hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester. Second Chance helps over 40,000 pets a year through adoption, spay/neuter, veterinary care, community outreach, educational outreach programs, training and a pet food pantry.

For more information, visit Second Chance's website at www.secondchancenanimals.org.

SENATE from page 1

riders on MBTA transportation and commuter rail, starting on Jan. 1, 2022.

Gobi was successful in securing five separate amendments to the bill, amounting to \$5.25 million in bond authorizations for the district. The projects advocated for are listed here:

- \$500,000 for costs associated with repairs of the Old Belchertown Road bridge in the town of Ware
- \$1 million for costs associated with the survey,

engineered design and construction of roadway and infrastructure improvements along Gay Road in the town of Brookfield

- \$750,000 for costs associated with repair of the Mad Brook Road and Horse Pond Brook Bridge in the town of North Brookfield
- \$1 million for costs associated with the replacement of corrugated metal pipes along Old Ashby Road Bridge in the town of Ashburnham
- \$2 million for costs associated with the replacement of the Pinedale Avenue Bridge in the towns of Athol and Orange

The full breakdown of the over \$17 billion dollars in bond authorizations included in the bill is as follows:

- \$5.6 billion for federally aided highways
- \$2 billion for non-federally aided highways
- \$150 million for the pavement improvement program
- \$90 million for the municipal bridge program
- \$50 million for the local bottleneck reduction program
- \$100 million for the municipal pave-

- ment program
 - \$50 million for the complete streets program
 - \$50 million for the bus transit infrastructure partnership
 - \$1.25 billion for the next generation bridge program
 - \$400 million for the rail and transit access program
 - \$330 million for regional transit authorities
 - \$60 million for the transit mobility assistance program
 - \$3.43 billion for the MBTA
 - \$300 million for a direct capital transfer to the MBTA
 - \$250 million for rail improvements
 - \$89 million for aeronautics safety and modernization
 - \$475 million for multi-modal transportation planning and implementation
 - \$250 million for the Allston multi-modal project
 - \$50 million for transportation information technology
 - \$20 million for a public realm improvement program in response to COVID-19
 - \$75 million for electric vehicle grants for municipalities and regional transit authorities
 - \$574 million for local and regional transportation projects
 - \$30 million for water ferry grants
- The bill represents an important step in reducing traffic congestion, and tasks the Department of Transportation with collecting new information and creating expert-driven plans to respond to the issue. These include seeking federal approval to join the Value Pricing Pilot Program, which provides state agencies with options to manage congestion.



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Reducing congestion

To further aid the Department in reducing congestion, the bill establishes a special commission on roadway and congestion pricing, which would also investigate and recommend options for regionally equitable roadway pricing mechanisms. Additionally, the bill allows public authorities to more clearly include time as a factor in evaluating private bids for construction projects. The Department is required to conduct a study examining the potential of mileage-based revenue-collection as an alternative to the current system of toll roads.

In a move that will give regions better control over their transportation infrastructure, the bill allows cities and towns, upon local acceptance by local government and local voters at the ballot, to utilize certain revenue sources for transportation-related projects within the municipality or region. These regional ballot initiatives are utilized across the county to allow cities and towns to raise money locally to invest in local transportation projects.

New offices

At the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, two new offices are created by the bill: An Office of Bus Transformation and an Office of Rail Enhancement. Each office would be dedicated to improving the productivity, equity and environmental sustainability of its respective system. The Department is given new authorities in establishing speed limits in construction zones and in using blue lights to mark construction activities, where permitted by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. Furthermore, the Department would be authorized to enter fixed-price job order contracts with a contractor for the contractor's performance of a specific construction project.

The bill addresses the growth of transportation network companies, and the public's need to be informed. It requires that such companies submit monthly reports to the Transportation Network Companies Division of the Department of Public Utilities. That division is then required to make an annual report, publicly available on its website, posting the total number of rides provided by all transportation network companies along with other related data. The bill would also establish scooter and e-bike regulations.

Fines

The bill also defines and regulates the amounts of fines for a several transportation-related activities. Penalties are defined for improper use of a designated bus lane, for railroads who fail to provide timely and sufficient flaggers, speeding in an active construction zone, nonpayment of citations and failure to move a vehicle involved in a crash from a travel lane on a public way. Passengers who fail to pay or prepay fares would be subject to less punitive punishment and arrest for fare evasion on the MBTA transit system would be prohibited.

The bill must now be reconciled with legislation previously passed the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

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SPORTS

Will high schools be able to play fall sports?

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION — Earlier this year, the high school and college sports worlds were ruined by the cancellation of all spring sports at each level, ranging up through Division 1 schools, and professional sports.

There always seemed to be an optimism at the time that sports would be able to resume

planned a fall schedule, much like they do each spring as most schedules are made out a season in advance.

But as the summer rages on with next to no activity and sports like soccer and football banned (for having games) despite Massachusetts' improved situation compared to the rest of the country, now fall sports seem to be in doubt.

Several New England col-



Soccer was barred for the summer, with the PVSSL canceling its season. MIAA officials are discussing this week whether soccer can be played this fall.

without an issue this fall and at the high school level in Massachusetts, athletic directors

leges and universities have declared that fall sports are postponed due to the recent



FILE PHOTOS

With football currently banned at the amateur level, will Western Mass. high school football commence in September?

spikes throughout the rest of the country and concerns over interstate travel and the lack of a vaccine which guarantees the stop of an overwhelming spread of COVID-19.

Massachusetts, as of last week, still maintains a positive test rate of less than 2 percent,

but the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is still having to consider the potential impact of allowing high school athletes back on fields, especially with soccer and football contests barred at the amateur level.

The ban does not specifically

affect high school players, and the MIAA is working with the governor's office on guidance.

The MIAA's board of directors, which recently changed some of its membership around due to re-districting, was sched-

Please see **FALL**, page 8

MASCAC suspends fall sports programs

WESTFIELD — Westfield State University athletics announced that the Owls will not have intercollegiate competition for fall sports teams in the Fall 2020 season, in conjunction with the announcement from the league's Council of Presidents on Thursday, July 16, 2020 that the entire Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC) will not compete in fall sports programs.

The Owls' fall sports teams (football, men's and women's soccer, field hockey, volleyball, men's and women's cross country and men's and women's golf) will have the ability to practice on campus while utilizing the NCAA Resocialization of Sport Guidelines.

"I am extremely disappointed to have to announce to our student-athletes and families that our fall season teams will not have the opportunity to play intercollegiate games this fall," said athletics director Richard Lenfest, Jr. "The COVID-19 pandemic has had an extreme impact on public health, and ultimately we need to take the steps that best protect the health of our student athletes and their loved ones in limiting the opportunity to spread or contract the virus."

"I am happy that we still be able to provide team activities through prac-

tices, conditioning and skill training," added Lenfest. "Athletics provides numerous benefits to our athletes, including strengthening their social networks, health, fitness, and general mental well-being through the benefit of exercise. Student-athletes will be able to train with their coaches, and while group sizes and activities may be modified to meet health guidelines, there is still the opportunity to reap the benefits provided by college athletics."

A decision on the winter sport seasons was deferred until September by the Council of Presidents.

The NCAA has issued several blanket waivers regarding eligibility. Student-athletes who's teams compete in less than 50 percent of that sports maximum allowable games for the fall 2020 season will not use a year of eligibility, so that Owl fall sport athletes who take part in team practices and activities will not lose a year of eligibility.

"The NCAA has acted swiftly to ensure that student-athletes do not unduly lose eligibility due to the pandemic's impact on competition," said Lenfest. "Our staff will be available to our athletes to answer any questions they have about eligibility."

Please see **COLLEGE**, page 8

Robie gets win in modified race, Sonhalter captures mini-stock battle

WINCHESTER, N.H. — Brian Robie (Sunapee, NH) topped a big field of NHSTRA Modifieds Saturday, July 18, charging from row four to score his first win of the season at Monadnock Speedway. Hillary Renaud (Vernon, VT), meanwhile, led all the way to earn her first season victory in the ultra-competitive Street Stocks.

And, while Renaud was busy scoring her first victory lane celebration, Late Model Sportsman star Aaron Fellows (Croydon, VT) stayed perfect on the year, using a late-race pass to overcome

his strongest challenge of the summer en route to victory lane. Vermont pilot Matt Sonnhalter (White River Junction, VT) wired the nightcap 50-lap Mini Stock event.

There are few sounds in life that come close to that made by a big field of Modifieds thundering atop the blacktop in pursuit of Saturday night glory. That thunder is heard weekly at Monadnock Speedway, where, Saturday, Matt Kimball and Rob Richardi led the 18-car

Please see **RACING**, page 8



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Organisak defeats Maccario for Mass. Amateur title

MARION – Sudbury native Matthew Organisak, 22, has defeated Waltham’s Nick Maccario, 28, by a score of 2 up to capture the 112th Massachusetts Amateur title in Friday’s 36-hole championship match at The Kittansett Club in Marion. This is the first state amateur win for Organisak, who represents Nashawtuc CC in Concord and recently graduated Emory University in Atlanta. Mike Ohanian, the 1968 champion, is the only other person to win it while representing Nashawtuc. Organisak also won the 2019 Francis Ouimet Memorial Tournament, also a Mass Golf championship. Organisak joins Patrick Frodigh (2018) and Ben Spitz

(2006) as the only left-handed golfers to win it since 2000. Match Summary: The first 18 holes ended in a tie, with both men winning five holes. Organisak won four of the first six holes over the next 18 holes and never trailed. He birdied the 9th (27th overall) and 10th (28th) to take a 4-up lead. Maccario won the 12th (30th) and 13th (31st) and made birdie on the 17th (35th) to cut it to 1 up, but Organisak was on the 18th (36th) green in three, and Maccario conceded after missing his par putt. Organisak, 22, made his first appearance in the Mass Amateur championship final. The Sudbury native is a recent graduate of Emory University in Atlanta where he

finished No. 2 for program scoring average, posting a mark of 73.04 strokes over 86 rounds of play. Organisak, a former standout at Lincoln-Sudbury High School, won the 2019 Francis Ouimet Memorial Tournament, and in 2016, qualified for the U.S. Amateur.

Maccario, 28, made his first appearance in the Mass Amateur championship final. He won the 2019 Mass Mid-Amateur championship and the 2019 Mass Four-Ball (with Mike Calef). He also played in the 2019 U.S. Amateur at Pinehurst No. 2 & No. 4 in North Carolina. He attended St. John’s Prep in high school and also had a stint on the St. Anselm College men’s golf team.

Relics return to action after long hiatus

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Relics, which is a summer/fall Senior Softball recreational slow pitch League has resumed play last week. The Relics field two divisions: the silver division is comprised of men 50-64 years of age and the bronze division is men 65 and over.

For the more competitive player there is opportunity to join a travel team and participate in local, regional and national tournaments.

Teams in both divisions normally play two games a week in the evenings, with all games played at the Fish & Game Club in Ludlow. These weekly games emphasize fun, friendship and good sportsmanship.

This year due to the coronavirus all players have to wear masks in the field except the outfielders. The players temperatures are taken before they enter the field. If a player

has a temperature, the player must leave the field and return home. Players must bring a lawn chair so they can social distance when a team is batting. The Relics have dispensed with hand shaking, fist bumps and any other contact with players.

For further information or to join the league contact Steve Lepow at 860-885-4556 or Ted Chmura at 413-589-1965.

RACING from page 7

Modified field to battle.

Kimball, gunning to turn a season-long hard luck run around, jumped all over the lead as the 40-lapper went green. Richardi stayed glued to his bumper, with defending track king Todd Patnode quickly entering the hunt.

By lap ten, Patnode held the duce spot, while two-time 2020 winner Ben Byrne was rocketing up to third. Coming from row five, Byrne took the three-spot on lap 14 but he and Patnode’s battle would be a short one. Coming quickly onto a cloud of lappers on lap 18, the potent pair came together, ending Patnode’s night early for the second week in a row and sending Byrne to the rear.

The turn-one tangle brought Robie alongside Kimball on the restart and, two laps later, he had the point, then dashing off to victory just ahead of the second-generation hot shoe, with Byrne charging back through the pack to finish third on the night. Robie’s victory moved him to the top of the points parade.

The Curtis twins, Chase and Jar-et, did all they could to keep Hillary Renaud from taking her first career Street Stock victory lap but, on this night, the Vernon, VT. driver could not be stopped.

Chase Curtis was all over her

back bumper for most of the race, sometimes even bumping it, without finding a path to the point, while brother Jaret did the same due diligence in his shadow. With the white flag in the air, Jaret rocketed low through turn two to claim the duce, then watching Renaud flash under the checkers just ahead of him. Chris Buffone was fourth on the night, and Mike Radzuik rounded out the top five.

Cole Littlewood did something Saturday that nobody else had accomplished so far this season, outrun Aaron Fellows for 21 laps in the LMS feature. Piloting the Steve Brehio ride, Littlewood kept Fellows in his shadow until the Croydon pilot took a wheels-length advantage on lap 22, and then soared off to victory.

Robert Hagar powered into second on the white flag lap, with Littlewood completing his strong night’s work in third. The victory was Fellows’ second of the weekend and kept him undefeated this season.

Matt Sonnhalter was in the house Saturday to hunt for victory in the 50-lap Mini Stock main event, the first leg of the regional 2020 Battle for The Belt series. And while the speedway’s weekly racing series drivers did well, nobody could catch the speedy Sonnhalter.

Nathan Wenzel and Jared Soucy were frequently closest to Sonnhalter, but it was 2019 track champ

Louie Maher II who came closest at the end. Firing from way back in row eight, Maher methodically charged forward, getting past potent Gordon

Farnum late to claim the runner-up hardware. Farnum’s third place run moved him back atop the home-track points parade.

Next Saturday, July 25, the thundering NEMA Midgents and NEMA Lites will join the Monadnock Speedway weekly racing series divisions for an exciting night of racing on the high banks. Advanced General Admission Tickets are available. For more information, please visit www.monadnock-speedway.com.

Monadnock Speedway July 18, 2020 results:

NHSTRA MODIFIEDS: Brian Robie, Matt Kimball, Ben Byrne, Trevor Bleau, Anthony Bello, Solomon Brow, Rob Richradi, Kim Rivet, Keith Carzello, Kevin Pittsinger, Brian Crunden, Jason Houle, Jerry Gomarilo, Eric Leclair, Cory Plummer, Cameron Houle, Scott MacMichael, Todd Patnode

MINI STOCK (50-lap Battle for The Belt): Matt Sonnhalter, Louie Maher, Gordon Farnum, Dan Sweeney, Nathan Sweeney, Kevin Clayton, Billy Chaffee, Joshua Hubbard, Tim Leblanc, Jeff As-selin, Shelby Avery, Haydon Grenier, Jake Puchalski, Jared Soucey, Andrew Harmon, Kevin McKnight, Kevin Russell, Bobby Kirk-er, Pat Houle

STREET STOCK: Hillary Renaud, Jaret Curtis, Chase Curtis, Chris Buffone, Mike Radzuik, Chris Riendeau, Tim Wenzel, Bryan Granger, Paul Barnard, Ben Williams

LATE MODEL SPORTSMAN: Aaron Fellows, Robert Hagar, Cole Littlewood, Camdyn Curtis, Justin Littlewood, Willie Kuhn, Nancy Muni-Ruot, Chris Ballas, Scott Beck

COLLEGE from page 7

The MASCAC is also investigating the ability to allow fall-season sports to compete in the spring, should public health conditions allow for it, pending NCAA rules.

“Ultimately, we are committed to providing the best experience and the safest experience for our student athletes,” said Lenfest. “This fall, the safest option is to not compete in intercollegiate games, but we can provide the best possible experience given the current health situation by having team practices and training. We are fully committed to getting back to intercollegiate competition as quickly as possible, as allowed under the Conference and NCAA Guidelines, as well as local, State and Federal health guidelines permit.”

Owl student athletes will not return to campus early for preseason in 2020, they will instead follow the Safe Fall Opening procedures established by the University, and team activities will start in early September. Coaches will be reaching out to their individual teams and players to further outline team plans and training schedules.

Westfield State athletics has consistently been the top program in the MASCAC. The Owls won the 2019-20 Howard C. Smith Cup, signifying the best overall athletics program in the league based on regular season records, and the Owls have claimed the Cup five times in the last six years and nine times since 2007.



FILE PHOTOS

Field hockey could be a sport that could resume as it was not on the governor’s list of “at-risk” activities.

FALL from page 7

uled to meet earlier this week to discuss a potential start date for fall sports.

Ludlow High School Athletic Director Tim Brillo was a former member of the Board of Directors, but lost his seat on July 1 with the re-districting.

“I’m not on the board anymore, but I am hopeful that we will be able to have a fall season,” said Brillo.

While Massachusetts is still on a good trajectory with a low infection rate, fear of a spike or a “second wave” if too much activity is allowed, is what is driving some decisions about whether to allow athletics and whether or not some school will involve remote learning this fall.

Agawam High School Athletic Director David Stratton said there are other restrictions he will have to contend with. While there is no interstate travel involved, travel is going to be limited.

“We’re only allowed to have a certain number of kids on the buses at a time,” said Stratton. “That could limit our ability to have JV games on the road.”

He said JV sports could be cancelled altogether, or JV squads could have geographically limited schedules or parents could be responsible for transportation.

He also said EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis) becomes a major factor as there are confirmed cases. He said the EEE wrinkle in the region could further limit sports because game times would have to be before dark until there is a frost.

Stratton said there is a possibility that sports like soccer and football could experience a delay, while sports not labeled at as high a risk, like golf, cross country, and volleyball, could be allowed to play immediately.

“These are all things being discussed by the MIAA and it’s committees,” said Stratton, who is part of the sports medicine sub-committee. “Hopefully we have will have some answers soon.”

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Crafting a connection to crafters

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff writer

In similar fashion to most every gathering, craft fairs across the state are being canceled or postponed because of COVID-19. To prevent losses and ensure that all crafters are able to sell their products, one local woman has crafted a solution.

Donalyn Gross, of Longmeadow, created the Western Massachusetts Crafters Directory to link clients with the favorite crafters this summer and fall. The directory currently lists the contact information for more than 200 crafters and is steadily growing.

“Over the years, I collected everybody’s business cards and told them to send me a list of all the fairs they know. Now, I put them together, made a list and sent it out to everybody,” said Gross.

Crafters must pay an annual fee of \$10 to be added to the directory and public access is entirely free. Gross, an avid craft fair participant for the past two decades, sells maple pecan and maple walnut syrup toppings, and typically attends a dozen craft fairs each autumn to sell her wares.

From September to December, traditional weekend craft fairs are prevalent throughout the region. This fall, the tradition will likely be broken, but Gross is cautiously optimistic that her directory will make a difference.

“This year with the virus, I’m nervous about what will happen with the fall fairs. It’s our busy season,” she said. “What happens if there aren’t any fairs? We want people to be able to get a copy of this directory and say, ‘Oh, here’s that person that I’ve bought stuff from before, and here’s the contact information.’ They can



Avid crafter Donalyn Gross, who sells maple pecan and maple walnut syrup toppings, created the Western Massachusetts Crafters Directory to connect customers with their favorite crafters during the pandemic.

contact the crafters directly.”

Gross noted that many crafters are small business owners and rely on the income gained during craft fairs each fall to support themselves and their family. She also pointed out that many of the products have already been created and are ready for sale.

“When you’re stuck in the house during the pandemic, what are you going to do? You’re going to make more stuff,” said Gross. “There are hundreds of people who do their Christmas shopping and holiday shopping at these fairs. We all have tons and tons of merchandise. I have 14 cases of jars in my living room right now.”

Emphasizing that crafters do not want to lose their customers, Gross reiterated that items can be picked up as soon as tomorrow. In addition to

the crafters’ contact information and locations, her directory lists product descriptions and times of availability.

“I want to get this out to the public as much as I can. I’m telling people, ‘Email me, and I will send it to you right away.’ For crafters who want to get on the list, email me, and I’ll give you the information,” she said.

While the directory is not yet online, Gross is receptive to assistance in the endeavor. She admits she is not a computer person but does realize the benefits of a potential website and will accept the help of someone willing to give it.

For more information or a directory, contact Gross at Goodendings@hotmail.com.

Dalton Zbierski is a staff writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.



Juliet Bacchas and Linda Spelko with an original ceramic vase designed by Spelko for the T-Pots & Tings annual exhibit at its studio in August.

Annual T-Pots & Tings August exhibit and sale

MONSON – Juliet Rose Pottery will be celebrating their 16th annual exhibit and sale, T-Pots & Tings, from Aug. 7 to Aug. 10, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in their gardens at 191 Reimers Road. The exclusively outdoor show will feature many new and original ceramic pieces. This year, visitors are invited to enjoy the renovated Japanese Garden and a brand new circular garden.

There is no charge for the exhibit. Visitors are asked to keep a six-foot social distance and wear masks to ensure safety in an outdoor setting.

For more information visit Juliet Rose Pottery on Facebook, call 413-563-9916 or go online to electroencephalography.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Brookfield Board of Selectmen will hold public hearings to consider petitions to locate poles, wires, cables, and fixtures, including the necessary anchors, guys, and other such sustaining and protecting fixtures, brought before it by National Grid Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 6:15 PM at the North Brookfield Police Department, 55 School Street, North Brookfield, MA 01535.

The pole locations that will be considered are as follows:

Brookfield Road-National Grid to install 2 JO Poles on

Brookfield Road beginning at a point approximately 300 feet south of the centerline of the interstation of Donovan Road and continuing approximately 65 feet in a southerly direction. Install 2 poles #31-25 and #31-50 in-line, between existing poles 31 and 32 on Brookfield Road, south of the Donovan Road intersection.

West Brookfield Road-National Grid to install 1JO Pole on West Brookfield Road beginning at a point approximately 600 feet west of the centerline of the intersection of Wine Road. Install new midspan pole 119 on West Brookfield Road, in-line between existing poles 118 and 120.

Donovan Road-National Grid to install 1 SO Pole on Donovan Road beginning at

a point approximately 200’ feet east of the centerline of the intersection of Town Farm Road. Install new midspan pole 5-50 in-line between existing pole 4 and pole 5 Donovan Road, east of Town Farm Road.

New Braintree Road-National Grid to install 1 SO Pole on New Braintree Road beginning at a point approximately 915’ feet southeast of the centerline of the intersection of Bell Road. Install

P14-2 for second service to garage for 36 New Braintree Road.

Said hearings will begin at 6:15 PM and continue until completion, and will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 166.

Dale R Kiley, Chairman
Jason M Petraitis
John H Tripp

7/17, 7/24/2020

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF
WEST BROOKFIELD
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 40A, Section 9, and Section 11 of the West Brookfield Zoning Bylaws, the West Brookfield Planning Board will open a public hearing on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall

Lower Meeting Room, 2 East Main Street, for the following application:

Mr Charles Ferrero of 101 Tucker Road seeks Special Permit approval to create a Backlot, approximately 8.5 acre.

Interested parties may review the plan at the Town Clerk’s office and are invited to attend the public hearing.

Rebekah DeCourcsey
Chairwoman

7/17, 7/24/2020

PUBLIC NOTICES
ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon,
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	SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1699 ⁹⁹ \$1199⁹⁹	DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER Reg. \$449 ⁹⁹ \$399⁹⁹	OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN Reg. \$219 ⁹⁹ \$189⁹⁹	DELUXE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399 ⁹⁹ \$329⁹⁹	LG FRONT LOAD WASHER Reg. \$699 ⁹⁹ \$799⁹⁹	

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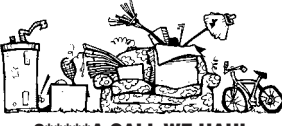
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OLD CARPENTER TOOLS wanted. Planes, chisels, axes, etc. Also hunting, fishing gear. Old advertising, cast iron cookware. Call Ken **(413)433-2195**.

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Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns, sheds, demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868**.

**2*****A CALL WE HAUL WE TAKE IT ALL WE LOAD IT ALL**
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CALL NOW **(413)531-1936**
acallwehaul@gmail.com

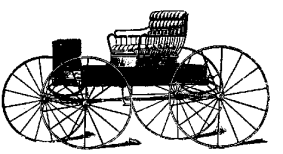
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CHILD SERVICES

***NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

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33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
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39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

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Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

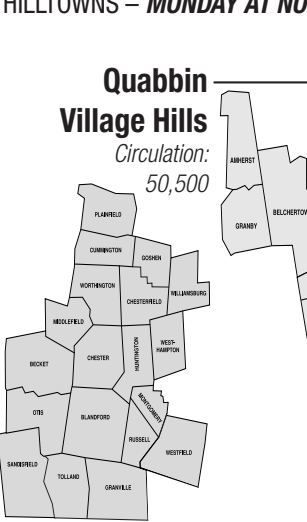
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____

Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____

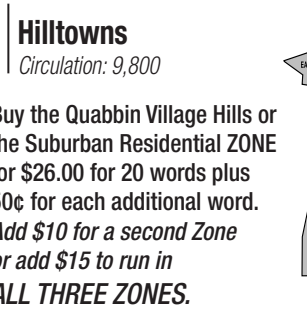
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____

Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

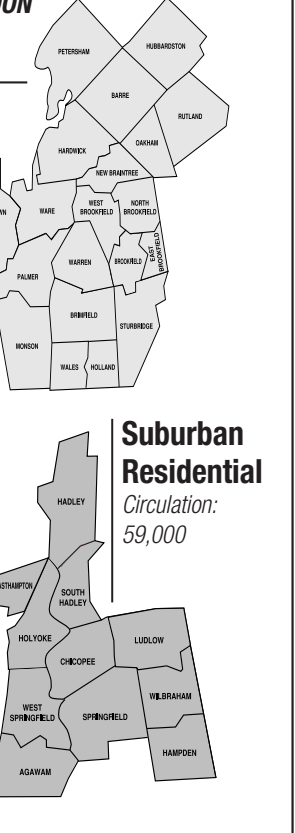
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- public safety -

EAST BROOKFIELD POLICE LOG

For the week of July 6-July 12, the East Brookfield Police Department conducted 43 building/property checks, seven radar assignments, 11 motor vehicle stops, 44 directed/area patrols, five traffic controls, eight animal calls, 12 emergency 911 calls, two assist other agencies, three safety hazards and four assist citizens.

Monday, July 6

3:18 p.m. 911 – Animal Call Stone Road – Negative Contact

Tuesday, July 7

12:15 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard North Brookfield Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency

5:14 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Connie Mack Drive – Services Rendered

Wednesday, July 8

11:26 a.m. Phone – Property Damage Lakeview Avenue – Report Taken

11:43 a.m. 911 – Misdial Stone Road – Checked/Secured

1:29 p.m. 911 – Misdial Meadowview Lane – Services Rendered

6:02 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Pleasant Street – Transported to Hospital

Thursday, July 9

11:45 a.m. 911 – Carbon Monoxide Alarm Lashaway Drive – False Alarm

Friday, July 10

1:15 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Adams Road – Transported to Hospital
5:44 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop North Brookfield Road – Arrest(s) Made

Arrest: Jayna Cormier, Worcester
Warrant; Operating a Motor Vehicle With a Suspended License; Receiving Stolen Property Over \$1,200; Using a Motor Vehicle Without Authority

12:20 p.m. 911 – Hang-up Call Paula Circle – Spoken To

Saturday, July 11

6:04 a.m. 911 – Safety Hazard South Pond Road – Removed Hazard

9 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Evergreen Street – Transported to Hospital

2:51 p.m. Initiated – Suspicious Activity Depot Square – Spoken To

4:47 p.m. Phone – Suspicious Activity Mechanic Street – Negative Contact

5:33 p.m. Phone – Disturbance Pleasant Street – Arrest(s) Made

8:59 p.m. 911 – Assist Citizen Pleasant Street – Investigated

11:39 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Rte. 49 – Citation Issued

Sunday, July 12

10:15 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Harrington Street – Citation Issued

10:41 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Prospect Street – Services Rendered

NEW BRAINTREE POLICE LOG

For the week of July 13-20, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department conducted 24 building/property checks, 11 radar assignments, 4 motor vehicle stops, 22 directed/area patrols, six traffic controls, 3 emergency 911 calls, two citizen assists, one vandalism, two animal calls, one harassment, one assist other agency and one scam in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, July 13

9:17 p.m. Initiated – Vandalism Memorial Drive – Report Taken

11:07 p.m. Phone – Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations Ravine Road – Arrest(s) Made

Tuesday, July 14

1:19 p.m. Phone – Alarm Old Wine Road – Spoken To

Wednesday, July 15

11:28 a.m. Radio – Harassment

Wine Road – Report Taken
1:22 p.m. Phone – Elevator Call/Alarms Memorial Drive – Dispatch Handled
5:10 p.m. Phone- Scam Gilbertville Road – Officer Handled

Thursday, July 16

5:26 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Vehicle Towed

Friday, July 17

3:36 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Gilbertville Road – Transported to Hospital

Sunday, July 19

8:43 p.m. 911 – Animal Call Barre Road – Services Rendered

Monday, July 20

1:27 a.m. 911 – Misdial Barre Road – Checked/Secured

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Quaboag Current/The Town Common, please email ekennedy@turley.com.

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REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS
MONDAY AT NOON

QUABOAG CURRENT

BROOKFIELD Vacation Bible School p3	WEST BROOKFIELD Local UMass Lowell grads, p5	SPORTS Will there be high schools fall sports? p7	Editorial/Opinion Sports Police Logs Classifieds	4 7 11 10-11
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Volume 13, Number 40

Friday, July 24, 2020

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